Improving Road facilities for exporting oil-cake

359. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the technology mission on oilseeds (T.M.O.) has asked the Ministry of Surface Transport to improve the facilities at the Ports for exporting oil-cake;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Ministry of Agriculture have suggested to this Ministry that schemes to develop infrastructure and mechanised handling facilities be developed in Ports.

(b) An amount of Rs 1 crore has been earmarked for the Feasibility Study of this Project by Ministry of Agriculture.

(c) Ministry of Surface Transport have asked Kandla Port Trust to draw up a Detailed Project Report for the Project.

Incorporating minimum safety devices in vehicles

360. SHRI MEINTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make it compulsory for vehicle Manufacturers to incorporate minimum safety devices in their products;

(b) what are the powers available with Government presently to enforce recommendations of National Road Safety Council to ensure safer vehicles from manufacturers; and

(c) details of proposals under consideration to ensure production of safer vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rule 123 to 128 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 deal with production of Safer Vehicles by Manufacturers.

(c) Government have identified 22 safety items for notification, under Rule 124 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

Poor condition of roads in Madhya Pradesh

361. SHRI SHIVPRASAD CHANPURIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the National Highways, State Highways and Rural Highways in the State of Madhya Prades are in such a dilapidated condition that they are dangerous for traffic; and

(b) whether Government would pay special attention and extend financial and technical assistance for improving and upgrading the poor condition of these roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Constitutionally, the Government of India is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only and other roads are essentially the responsibility of respective State Governments. Maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and they are being kept generally in traffic worthy condition by taking up repair works from time to time within the funds available. During 1992-93 an amount of Rs. 12.13 crores has been released so far for maintenance of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh, apart from Rs. 18.50 crores allocated to the